# SEBASTIAN RODRIGUEZ

Fifth year PhD student in the department of statistics at Northwestern University with over four years of research experience in statistical modeling involving time-series analysis, epidemiology, optimization, and machine learning. I have presented my work bridging the knowledge from statistical modeling and epidemiology and published multiple scientific papers with interdisciplinary focuses in statistical modeling and computer science. My current focus is in applying spatio-temporal models to analyze long-term trends in malaria incidence and quantify the efficacy of malaria interventions in sub-Saharan Africa.



### **EDUCATION**

present 2017

### PhD, Statistics

Department of Statistics

Northwestern University

- · Dissertation: Spatio-temporal modeling to quantify the efficacy of malaria interventions in Burkina Faso
- · Recipient of the Northwestern University Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Training Program (NU-MHRT) training grant.

2017 2012 Bachelors of Science, Computer Science & Engineering; Applied Mathematics (Computational Statistics emphasis)

School of Engineering; Department of Applied Mathematics

• University of California, Merced

- · Resarch under Harish Bhat in the department of mathematics and Alberto Cerpa in the department of EECS at the University of California, Merced.
- · Recipient of the Outstanding Undergraduate Student Award in Natural Sciences (2017).
- · Undergraduate Representative of the UC Merced SIAM chapter



### **III** SELECTED POSITIONS

present 2020

T<sub>37</sub> Northwestern University Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Training Program (NU-MHRT) pre-doctoral fellow

Statistics Deparment; Malaria Modeling Research Group (Gerardin's Lab)

Northwestern University

- · Applied statistical modeling to health facility routine case data from Burkina Faso to quantify changing trends in malaria incidence in the presence of changing health care policies.
- · Collaborated with in country partners and partners at the WHO Global Malaria Programme to parse and manipulate this messy dataset to gain insights on the effectiveness of newly introduced preventative interventions.
- · Presented our work to researchers from diverse backgrounds in several global health and epidemological conferences and symposia including ASTMH in 2020 and are currently preparing 2 manuscripts.

2017 2014 Undergraduate research assistant

Department of Applied Mathematics (Harish Bhat)

• University of California, Merced

- · Applied statistical analysis tools in R, Python, and Spark to fit high-dimensional, nonlinear models (Random Forests, SVMs) to large datasets, handling big data problems by integrating mongoDB and Hadoop to map and reduce our data.
- · Modeled basketball data by inferring stochastic continuous-time Markov chains from the data and presented our work at multiple statistical and machine learning conferences.
- · Expanded on research by exploring semi-Markov models and using optimization to develop subproblems to improve our model fit.



### CONTACT

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### LANGUAGE SKILLS

R	
Python	
MATLAB	
C/C++	
LaTeX	

### California Alliance for Minority Participation (CAMP) research fellow

Department of Applied Mathematics (Harish Bhat)

• University of California, Merced

- · Expanded our research on predicting NBA games with machine learning and stochastic modeling techniques.
- · Created a talk and poster presentation for Joint Statistical Meetings (JSM) 2016.
- · Helped lead discussions on expanding access to research and graduate programs for underrepresented minorities in California.

### Sales Planning Analysis Intern 2015

PlayStation (Sony Computer Entertainment America)

San Mateo. CA

- · Conducted analysis on in house products to ascertain possible retailer specific marketing strategies using Apache Hadoop and Hive to query and aggregate massive datasets.
- · Presented business insights on emergent products to company CEOs and VPs of sales and marketing.
- · Processed massive datasets to leverage business insights with Excel and a small amount of Tableau.

#### Software Development Team Intern 2014

Zeptoo

San Jose, Costa Rica; Berkeley, CA

- · Worked with a team of software engineers to develop the Airbanq Android application for alpha testing.
- · Conducted alpha tests in Fruitvale, Oakland, where we worked through a community cash checking store and borrowed their expertise and clientele to conduct our field tests.
- · Worked closely with the product owner, the investing partners, and the lead software architect to coordinate and plan the alpha tests, as well as to interpret and communicate the test findings to the development team.

#### **Interning Software Developer** 2013

TecApro

San Jose, Costa Rica

- · Created an Android application to keep tracks of changes to building blueprints.
- · Helped the company break into the mobile application industry by helping them prototype their first application.
- · Worked independently on this project, receiving support from the team of software engineers at TecApro.

## ■ SELECTED TALKS & PUBLICATIONS

2021

Quantifying Trends in Malaria Incidence Using Routine Case Data in Burkina Faso in the Presence of Improved Reporting and Treatment-Seeking

Global Health Day 2021

Northwestern University

- · Poster presentation and talk on ongoing project conducted at the Gerardin malaria lab at Northwestern University under the supervision of my advisors Noelle Samia and Jaline Gerardin.
- · Presented work that will be considered as part of the methodology to conduct midterm review of malaria control campaigns in Burkina Faso by the National Malaria Control Programme.
- · Won best poster presentation award in my group.

Quantifying trends in malaria incidence using routine case data in Burkina Faso in 2021 the presence of improved reporting quality and treatment-seeking behavior Northwestern University **ASTMH 2021** · Poster presentation of ongoing project conducted at the Gerardin malaria lab at Northwestern University under the supervision of my advisors Noelle Samia and Jaline Gerardin. · Presented work that will be considered as part of the methodology to conduct midterm review of malaria control campaigns in Burkina Faso by the National Malaria Control Programme. Analyzing trends in routine case data in Burkina Faso to quantify the protective 2021 effectiveness of seasonal malaria chemoprevention Northwestern University **ICSTA 2021** · Invited speaker presentation Quantifying the protective efficacy of seasonal malaria chemoprevention under 2020 programmatic implementation in Burkina Faso using routine case data Northwestern University ASTMH 2020 · Poster presentation of ongoing project conducted at the Gerardin malaria lab at Northwestern University under the supervision of my advisors Noelle Samia and Jaline Gerardin. Quantifying the protective efficacy of seasonal malaria chemoprevention under 2020 programmatic implementation in Burkina Faso using routine case data Northwestern University Global Health Day 2020 · Poster presentation and talk on ongoing project conducted at the Gerardin malaria lab at Northwestern University under the supervision of my advisors Noelle Samia and Jaline Gerardin. Analyzing the Spatial Variability in Protective Efficacy of SMC in Burkina Faso under 2019 **Programmatic Implementation** Northwestern University Global Health Day 2019 · Poster presentation of project conducted at the Gerardin malaria lab at Northwestern University under the supervision of my advisors Noelle Samia and Jaline Gerardin. Driving Markov Chains to Desired Equilibria via Linear Programming 2019 Asilomar Conference on Signals, Systems & Computers 2019 **Q** University of California, Merced · Authored with Harish Bhat and Li-Hsuan Huang. · Work presented by Harish Bhat at Alismomar conference. · Paper published into the conference precedings. Using Play-by-Play Data to Model, Simulate, and Predict NBA Games 2016 **Q** University of California, Merced MMDS 2016 · Presented a poster at MMDS 2016 on work conducted under Harish Bhat at the University of California, Merced. 2016 Using Play-by-Play Data to Model, Simulate, and Predict NBA Games • University of California, Merced JSM 2016 · Presented orally and with poster at JSM 2016 on work conducted under Harish Bhat at the University of California, Merced.

2015

### Learning Stochastic Models for Basketball Substitutions using Play-by-Play Data

ECML PKDD 2015 - European Conference on Machine Learning and Principles and Practice of Knowledge Discovery in Databases

• University of California, Merced

- Work conducted as undergraduate research under Harish Bhat at the University of California, Merced.
- $\cdot$  Poster presented by Harish Bhat.
- · Paper published into the conference precedings.

2015

### Citation Prediction Using Diverse Features

ICDM 2015 workshop

**♀** University of California, Merced

- Work conducted as undergraduate research under Harish Bhat at the University of California, Merced.
- · Authored with Harish Bhat, Li-Hsuan Huang, Rick Dale, and Evan Heit.
- · Work presented by Evan Heit at International Conference on Data Mining Workshop (ICDMW) 2015.